

We claim:

1. A process for cutting at least one optical fiber, the process comprising the steps of:

introducing a glass fiber into a holding and positioning device;

actuating a laser device to deliver a beam having a power suitable for sublimating glass; and

effecting the relative movement of said beam across said glass fiber along a path, thereby sublimating glass and cutting said glass fiber along said path.
2. The process according to claim 1, wherein a plurality of fibers are introduced into the holding and positioning device parallel to one another and moving the beam across the plurality of fibers so that the fibers are cut in succession.
3. The process according to claim 1, wherein the fiber is a ribbon fiber having multiple fibers therein.
4. The process according to claim 3, wherein said path comprises a predetermined angle with respect to each fiber such that said fibers are cut in a sawtooth arrangement.
5. The process according to claim 1, wherein said path comprises at least one predetermined angle.

6. The process according to claim 5, wherein said predetermined angle is greater than about 15° .
7. The process according to claim 6, wherein said predetermined angle is about 45° .
8. The process according to claim 1, wherein said path comprises two or more predetermined angles.
9. The process according to claim 8, wherein said path comprises two predetermined angles to shape a wedge on the end face of the fiber.
10. The process according to claim 1, wherein said path is a curve.
11. The process according to claim 1, wherein path comprises a predetermined angle which is repeatable within less than $\pm 0.5^\circ$ at the core region.
12. The process according to claim 1, wherein the predetermined angle is within about $\pm 10 \mu\text{m}$ of a reference surface along the optical axis of said glass fiber.
13. The process according to claim 1, wherein said beam is a continuation wave.
14. The process according to claim 1, wherein said beam is a pulsed.

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15. The process according to claim 5, wherein the laser is a CO₂ laser.
16. A fiber prepared in accordance with the process of claim 1.
17. A fiber prepared in accordance with the process of claim 7.
18. A fiber prepared in accordance with the process of claim 9.
19. A glass fiber comprising an end face at least a portion of which is angled at more than about 15° from perpendicular of the optical axis of said glass fiber.
20. A glass fiber comprising an end face having a rounded edge.
21. The Fiber of claim 20, wherein said fiber is integrated with an optical package and positioned within said optical package in a v-groove
22. An optical subassembly comprising:
 - a fiber having an end face and an end face angle greater than 15°;
 - a device having an operative axis and being mounted relative to said optical fiber
 - such that said operative axis is not axial with said optical axis

